At Smith & Sirong's art gallery, on F street, ear the Ethiti house, we noticed a large life-stee portrait of General Robert E. Lee, by Frank Bucheer. We have already seen several very the productions from the brush of the same artist, chiedly, however, scenes on the plains, and more particularly his very characteristic and faithful representations of negro life. After these grotesque subjects, which by the way were treated with exquisite accurring and taste, ye were forcibly te accuracy and taste, we were foreibly

e cain, imposing dignity expressed in his casent work.
Wide as is the difference between the bleeds and between the leading characteries portrayed in this and the former ones spectively, we observe is both the same lelity to nature and boldness of execution, he portrait is treated with a delicate perpetion of the present situation of General es, who is dressed in a plain chisen's subthest. of black. His bearing, however, is unmis-takably that of a soldier; his commanding figure, firm, erect attitude, folded arms and

conception of the chief miniary leader with fate rebellion.

His connection with the war for disunion is quietly inflicated by the emblems of command—his coat, such, sword, &c.—which lie spon a table by his aldo. Those who are pursonally acquainted with Gen. Lee tell us that the likeness could not be better, and what the likeness could not be better, and and think that on the whole we ever nd does full justice to the reputation already

Public Amusements.
NATIONAL THATAS.—Mr. and Mrs. Watns commence their second week to-night, ne commence their second week to-night, hen a new Hish drama from the pen of fr. Watkins, entitled "Norah O'Nell," ill be presented. This play is said to be ally as interesting and structive as other those which have been produced by those

by the fact that in it little Amy Watkins will make her first appearance. This little girl is only six years of ago, and is very highly spoken of as counciating distinctly and exhibiting perfect self possession and a clear conception of her part.

As this is to be the last week of the engagement of Mr. and Mrs. Watkins, we advise all who have not already done so, to witness their superior impursonations; those who have once seen them will moot no always moultion from us to induce them to go

week, as Neutron Hall, Historicks of legor-demain are perfectly astonishing, being per-formed alone and unaided. His entertain-ments are also unlivened by a wit peculiarly his own, which is said to be keen and amus-ing. We advise all to witness his manipu-lations, promising that those who attend

will be amply repaid for so doing.

Mus. Scott-Stribons.—This lady, who is
pleasantly remembered by our cliticens for
her matchiess Shakspercan impersonations
at the National Theatre hat season, will
present a unique entertainment at Lincoin
Hall, on Thursday ovening, December 24.
She will render Shakspeare's "Midsummer
Night's Dresm," giving the entire text, and
will be assigned by an orthostra of events. red at \$1.50, and seats can now be secured vishout extra charge, by applying at the ockstore of Mesars. Philp & Solomons. German Orena.—We take great pleasure

n announcing that Messre. Spaiding & Rep-ey have perfected arrangements with Mr. frau by which the Grand Opera Troupe, nder the control of that celebrated impresario, will commence a season of opera at the National Theatre to-night week. The roupe consists of all the celebrated artistes bleh composed the unequalled company brought here by Grover some years ago, save Hermans. The sale of tickets will com-mence on Thursday at Metzerott's music

Personal.
A monument will be erected to the memory of George Peabody In Central Park, New York. Several of New York's most influential merchants have the matter in charge, who will put their shoulder to the wheel and push on the column to a success-

william Cullen Bryant, the veteran jour-

unlist, is at present engaged upon a transla-tion of Homer's Itlad, and the critics have begun to praise it in advance. President Grant and family attended the Matronial of the control opolitan (M. E.) church yesterday morn-

Major General J. A. Mower, commanding dirict of Louisiana and Arkanass; T.

Mason, New York; John Lamb and Indy,
Virginia; W. M. Bahlgieish, Pittsburg, Pa-;
J. R. Goldsborough, Baltimore, Md.; R. L.
Starges, Charleston, S. C.; F. B. Cloner,
Mexico, and Dr. B. H. Peterson, Louisiana,
act at the Dr. H. are at the Owen House

Hou. Charles A. Page, late United States consulat Zarieh, Switzerland, is at the Eb-

Senator Edwards, of Vermont, is in the

omnissioned out of his own chamberlains to be beauty of a letter from his Holiness to Father Hyacinthe.

Bouelcault is said to have perverted

in spent two hours on Saturday in Hartford, Compositent, an route for the "Hab."

Digraphi is to spend the winter in Italy.

The crown princess of Prussia, eldest daughter of Queen Victoria, is said to have shown of late symptoms of insanity. Donnectic unhappiness is an igned as the cause.

Count Bismarck's obristian names are

pold Edward Ottoof Chicago, is to have a town named after

Vice President Colfax will be in town by

the 25th of this month.

Speaker Blaine is expected here the early part of this week.

Senator Carl Schurz is in town.

Senator Carl Schurz is in town.
Senator C. D. Drake, of Missouri, is in
town, and has taken rooms for the coming
session of Congress at 420 if street, between
Ninth and Tenth streets.
Golomel Nat. Kinney, formerly of the 18th
United States infantry, is to town.
Licett. G. McChernach, U. S. N., and Col.
W. B. Thompson, at St. Louis, are at the
Robitt house.

In San Francisco, on the north side of Felsom street, overlooding Mission Bay, stands a palastial result. The interior of this has a leave more beautiful than its exist on the street any timent being in its way a gen of angular general and reducement. The library especialty realizes the most perfect liceal of an elegant and cultured bones.

perfect ideal of an oregant and curren-home.

And yet, at the moment we look in upon him—one August afternoon, as he occupied his library—the proprietor of all this wealth appeared of all men the most miserable.

He was Mr. Morton Freble, for many years a leading banker of San Francisco.

It was in valu that the broad bay-window at the contil end of the room had been opened, giving burgess to the sunshine and the regression of man flowers—the vain that the walls were libed with rightly carred book-cases and paintings in vain that soft conches and invarious chairs had been gathered

and iuxurious chairs had been gathered around him. He was wretched. He lay on a softs, in the depths of the great bay-window, the wreck of a one powerful man. His figure was thin and ganut; his face white as marble; his eyes having an expression of world apprehension, of harrowing anxiety, of dreadful expectancy.

It was evident at a glante that no merely physical aliment had made him what he was.

By what withering secret, by what destroying affliction, had he been thus agonized? thus haunted I thus hunted I he so noble and goods he as wealthy and distinguished!

valid. He roused himself, struggling feebly to a sitting posture.

"Oh, will this fatal day never, never pass?" he nurrunved, "not bring us relief?"

Noticing with a nervess start that he was alone, he touched a bell spon a table before him, and called:

"Helen, Ristel where are you?"

Baffore the schoes of his voice had died out a step was heard, and his wife entered his presence.

a step was heard, and his wife entered his presence.

"Their you only for a moment, Morton," since said, advancing to the banker's aide.

"You were dosing, I think. I wished to send for the dostor!"

She was a beautiful woman, of some six and thirty years, graceful, with bread white brows, and loving eyes, in which the brightness and sweetness of a sunshiny nature were skill percepable, under a grifer and axilety no less polgnant than that eviced by her husband.

"The doctor!" he ochoed, half reproachfully.

lety no less polgnaut than that eviaced by her husband.

"To doctor" he schoed, half reproach"Tes, dear," she said, in a calm and chearful volcas, as also draw a chair to the 
side of the sofs, and set was a chair to the 
side of the sofs, and set down, streking the 
corregated forehand of the lavalid with a 
magnetic torch. "To will be here immediately. Your last norrous crisis alarmed 
me. You may become seriously illi?" John 
Mr. Pretice bestowed an affectionate look 
upon his wise, but said despondently:
"The doctor! He cannot "minister to a 
mind discussed!" Oh. If these long hours 
would only pass! If I only knew what the 
day bas yet in store for us?"
"Look up, Morton!" enjoined Mrs. Preble, 
with a reverently trastful glance upward 
through the open window at the blue aky, 
and as if looking beyond the anne clouds 
therein. "Let us appeal from the injustice 
and wickedness of earth to the goodness and 
mercy of Heaven!"

The banker gave a low, sobbing sigh. 
"I cannot look up, Helen," he answered, 
with a passeounate tremor in his voice—"only 
down, down at the grave that is opening 
before me!"

Mrs. Preble continued to stroke his forehead softly, while she lifted her pale face to 
the sunlight streaming into the apartment. 
"Look up, Morton—always look up" ahe 
again enjoined upon the lawalid. "Ouring 
all these fourteest pears of agoop, I have not 
once doubted either the goodness or the justice of Heaven. "Blessed are they that 
mourn; for they shall be comforted. I believe that we shall yet rejoice more keenly 
than we have mourned, and that we shall 
come to a giorious day of joy beyond all 
this loug night of sorrow!"

The face of the lavalid lighted up with an 
answering a fact of sorrow!"

The face of the lavalid lighted up. Helton, 
"Giorious faith! Wy rife, yon are indeed 
a blessed comforter! Perhaps, after all, you 
are right!"

A knock resounded on a side-door at this 
juncture, and the next mousent Dr. Hutton, 
the family physician, for whom Mrs. Preble 
had sent, entered the re

are right:"

A knock resounded on a side-door at this juncture, and the next moment Dr. Hutton, the family physician, for whom Mrs. Preble had sent, entered the room.

He was no did man, portly in figure, with white hair and beard, but with a fresh and raddy complexion, a pair of shrewd bine gyes, and with an exuberant boyishness of manner that sat well upon him. He had a kind heart and a clear head. He approached the sofs, after greeting the hutshed and wife, and iffed the thin restless hand of the invalid, feeling his pulse.

"Quite a high inver," he said, after a brief panes. "Worrying again, ch. Mr. Prebief You are wearing yourself out. Medicine will do you no good so long as your mind is in its present condition. I must give you an optaise...""I cannot ...must not—sleep to-day! I need to be broad awake now, for I cannot tell at any moment what the next may bring forth I am tocking for the commandor of all my years of anguish—for the crowning agony of the whole. Perhap even now.—Ah, what was that!"

Dr. Hotton drew up a chair and seated hieraelf, his face expressing the double solicitude of a friend and physician.

'You knew us fourteen years ago, doctor," said Mr. Preble. "We lived then where we do now, in a cottage on the site of this great mansion. There were but the three of us.—Helem and I, and our three-year old Jessie. And it was fourteen years ago to day that our little Jessie was stolen from us."

'Yet might she not have been lost, Mr. Proble? She went out to play in the garden, if I remember rightly, and was never seen by you again. She might have strayed away.—"

'So we thought for a whole year, doctor," Interrupted the hanker. "We never dreamed that she had been stolen. We scarched everywhere for her, and offered linnesses rewards for her recovery. I employed detectives, but all to no purpose. When our little Jessie ran down the steps into that flower-garden," and he pointed to the front of the house, "as if the earth had opened and swallowed her up, we never saw her again."

'She must have found the gate open, and

again."
"She must have found the gate open, and
wandered out," suggested Dr. Hutton. "She
might have strolled down to the waters and

wandered out, "suggested Dr. Hutton. "She might have strolled down to the waters and been drowned."
The banker fixed his burning eyes upon the physician's face, and whispered:
"I said we never saw the poor child again. I did not say we had not heard of her. She was lost on the 9th of August, 1894. For a year we thought her dead. But on the aniversary of our loss we received a written interestry of our loss we received a written viscous concerning her."
"A mere serraw!—a single line in a hand evidently disguised," said the banker. "Here it is."
He produced a dingy scrap of paper from a drawer in the table, and held it up to the view of the physician, who read as follows:
"August 9.1855. Jessie, ha, hal Jessie."
Thom the scrap of paper, which he turned over and over, to the countenance of the banker.
"I can make nothing of this," he declared. "It is merely a date, with the mane of your lost daughter. It tells me nothing."
"Nor did it us, at first," said Mr. Proble. "Then that mame and that date, with the demon lang connecting them, set as thinking. A whole year we agonized over the dreadful problem, and then we received another message, which you shall soe."
He thruta a second slip of paper, identical is shape and appearance with the first, before the game of Dr. Hutton, who read it aloud:

"August 9, 1860. Year Jessie still lives."

loud:
"August 9, 1806. Your Jessie still lives."

"Augusto, 1806. Your Jesus still lines."
The physician started, as if electrified.
"Ah! this is something definite—something decisive," he mattered. "It convinced you that your fanghter was still living."
"Yes, doctor," said Mr. Freble, "and every anniversary of that day has brought as some samessage. The disappearance of the child, mysterious as It is, does not seem to me half so strange as that the vilials who conce connected with a popular magazine, to me half so strange as that the vilials who conce connected with a popular magazine, to make the course of the very some same and amature of five of more than the course is worth more than the course is worth more than the course of the coverned with a popular magazine, to make the course of the coverned with a popular magazine, to make the course of the coverned with a popular magazine, to make the course of the year, are though all were read, only two were cook of the year, and amature of five of my control of the course of the year, are the course of the year, are there of the coverned with a popular magazine, to make the course of the year, are there of the coverned with a popular magazine, to make the course of the year.

"Usually to the house, but sometimes to the office?"

"And you have nover seen their suthor !!"

"Never!"

"The last of them is dated, I see, a year ago to-day!"

"Ise, yea," faitered the hanker, "and the time has some for another message. Tail is the 9th of Angust, 1566!"

"I see," said Dr. Hutton. "And this is the secret of your terrible axcitement! Tou are expecting to receive to-day another of these strange messages!"

There was a brief silence. Mrs. Preble's hand fluitered in its task, and her face grow vary pale. The banker breathed gaspingly. The physician regarded them both in friendly sympathy.

y sympathy.
"We shall hear of her again to-day," said
Mr. Proble; "and what will the message be!"
The mother averted her face. Her brave
heart faltered as that question echoed in her

soul.
"The writer of these letters is unquestionably the abductor of your child!" said Dr. Hutton. "Have you any suspicion as to his ably the abductor of your child!" said Art. Huitoo. "Hare you may suspicion as to bile identity?"

"Not the slightest," said Mr. Proble. "We have puxiled over the problem for many years, but we cannot guess who he is."

"Think," said the doctor. "Have you no enemy! I do not mean people with whom you are not frishdly—every stlring man has plenty of these—but a downright enemy! Is there no man whom you know in the East whe hated you! No one against whom you were called upon to testify—so one whom you possibly injured!"

The banker shook his head. He had asked himself all these questions repeatedly.

"I have no such enemy, doctor," he anwered with sincerity of voice and manner.

"And Mrs. Freble?" saggested the doctor, turning to her. "Have you no rejected sailor who might be revengeful enough to desolate your home?"

"No," said the lady. "I was married early. Morton was my first lover."

"This is strange—very strange!" muttered the doctor. "You are not conscious of baving an enemy in the world, and yet you have meanwe... hidden foe—a feed in he.

thing—except that it is evidently disguised."
Again there was a profound allence.
Again there was a profound allence.
'Our child is seventeen years old now,"
at longth marmured Mrs. Proble, her voice
trembling. "She is on the threshold of womathood. No doubt, during all these years,
she has yearsed for us, wherever alse may
be, as we have yearned for her!"

"But where is she!" asked the physician—
and now his voice was broken by this deep
sympathy with the agouised parents.
"Where can she be!"

"Heaven only knows," answered the
mother. "Perhaps in San Francisco—perhaps in some rude but in the interior, with
some obscure farmer, and under a hame that
is not hers! I think her abductor would have
carried her to some lonely region of the interior, among the valleys and mountains.
Yet I never see a young girl in the streets
without turning to look at her. I never hear
a girlish voice, without listening eagerly,
half faneying that it may prove the voice of
my loot Jessie!"
"Ob pityling heaven!" sighed Dr. Hutton,
"Ob pityling heaven!" sighed Dr. Hutton,

"Not now, doctor," interposed the banker.
"I cannot send a wake now, for I cannot tell at any moment what the next may bring forth. I am booking for the culmination of all my years of anguish—for the crowning agony of the whole. Perhaps even now— Ah, what was that?"

The started up wildly, and then, as the sound that had disturbed him was not repeated, he sank back again on his cushions, pallid and panting.

The doctor looked at Mrs. Preble with an anxions, questioning glance.

"It is the anniversary," she replied to his unspoken loquiry—"the anniversary of our loss."

"Ah, yes," said the doctor. "I romenber."

"Yes, it's another of those terrible days," cried the banker, in a hollow whisper. "Sit down, doctor, and I will tell you the whole story. I can think of nothing else to-day, and am almost wild with apprehension and anxiety. Sit down."

Dr. Hutton drow up a chair and seated hirmself, his face expressing the double softer," each Mrs. Preble. "We lived then where we do now, in a cottage on the site of this great mansion. There were but the three of us—Helen and I, and our three-year old Lossel. And It was fourteen years ago, doctor," each Mrs. Preble. "We but the work of a friend and physician.

"You knew us fourteen years ago, doctor," each Mrs. Preble. "We lived then where we do now, in a cottage on the site of this great mansion. There were but the three of us—Helen and I, and our three-year old Lossel. And It was fourteen years ago, doctor," when the proper was now and the code of the street of the down. There were but the three of us—Helen and I, and our three-year old Lossel. And It was fourteen years ago, the street of the down of the down. There were but the three of us—Helen and I, and our three-year old Lossel. And It was fourteen years ago, the was continued to the proper the substitute of the substitute of the proper the substitute of the substitute of

"Another message!" breathed the banker.

A servant soon entered, bearing a letter, which he extended to Mr. Preble, saylog: "The bearer is in the hall."
With an eager gase the banker glanced at the superscription of the missive.
"It is from him!" he failered.
He tore the envelope open.
It contained a silp of paper, of well-known shape and appearance, upon which was serawled a single ites, to an equally well-known handwriting, which the banker exhibited to bis wife and the physician.
This line was as follows:
"August 9, 1868. At six I sell call."
A shock of wonder and horror shook the three simultaneously.
"Will call!" cried Mr. Preble, starting to his feet and glaring wildly around.

arising.
"It seems so," said Dr. Hutton, his eyes
again reverting to the message. "He will
be here at six o'clock, and see! it is six al-

again reverting to the message. "He will be here at six o'clock, and seel it is six already."

Even as he spoke the clock on the mantelplece commenced striking the appointed hour, and at that instant heavy footsteps resounded in the inall, approaching the library. "It is held to find the cloth of the control of the head at the head of the hour resounded, the door land from the hall again opened. One long and horriford glance cast the banker and his wife in that direction, and thus she full heavile to the floor.

Her senses had for the horr.

Her senses had for the nor.

Her senses had story will be found only in the story will be found only in his X-Y. Longer Ask for the number dated December 4th, which can be had at any news office or bookstore. If you are not within reach of a news office, you can have the house mailed to you for one year by sending three dollars to Robert Bonner, publisher, 187 William story office, you can have than any other periodical in the world. It will publish none but the very, text selection the largest. Everybody who takes it is happing for having it. Loon Lewis, Mrs. Harried Lewis, Mrs. Southworth, Mrs. Cobb, Yroicssor Feek, Mary Ryle Dallas, Fanny Fern and Mac Dupuy will write only for the Ledger hereafter.

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MYRES-LINDS (NY. "On the Pith locked, at 5t. Pairet's church, by the Rey, John J. Kessen Joseph J. Kessen J. Kessen

COOPER --On therefor, evening, November 20 at the residence of the residence in the city, says in case 37 years and 6 months, only doughter of the daman and flaster Coper, of Baltimans. Mary land.
The remains will be taken to Baltimore for inter KERR. - At Philadelphia, Penn., on Monday par of his age.

TALBERT.—On the neuraling of the 19th instantion for a long and painful illness, Farnoss C. TART, aged J year, 4 months and 1 days, into angiter of James & and Historia Valley. CalifiCult. -- in Georgetown, on the 10th instant Summis Sikuv, tofant daughter of Wm. H. ac Oprania E. Calhoun, aged ains mouths and four took day.

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Conditions, &c., as hardward.
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ords-00 Acting Comptroller of the Garraser,

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Notice is hereby given that the discussifier prompt payment of bills for gas convenied on and after November 1, 1684, 'until Farther notice with the large-acad from 13 to 18 3-5 per con. OHAS B. BALLEY, Sec. OHAS B. BALLEY, Sec. DE SEPARADE FOR DE SATIONA LE SELECTION DE SATIONA LE SELECTION DE SAVISIOS AU TRUST COMPANY DE SAVISIOS AU SERVICIO DE SAVISIOS AU SERVICIO DE SAVISIOS AU SAVISIONA DE SAVISIOS AU SA

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